

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

It is abundantly clear that consolidation and concentration in the television broadcast industry has resulted in a homogenizing and dumbing down of content. TV programming has gone from bad to worse. TV news is execrable, leading to an ever more ignorant and manipulable citizenry. No doubt the powers that be--corporate and governmental--see the situation as a positive trend. I, however, believe that to salvage our democracy, source diversity in major media sources is an absolute necessity. I urge you NOT to loosen ownership rules.